



# Home Safety Checklist

A fire can occur in any part of your home so please use this checklist to make a safety check.

## Cooking

- Never leave cooking unattended.
- Short or cuffed sleeves and turn pot handles inward when cooking to avoid burns.
- Never store combustibles in oven or on top of stove.
- When barbequing, move unit away from the house.



## Develop and Practice Your Escape Plan

- Have two exits out of every room.
- Exit doors must be able to open from inside (avoid double keyed locks).
- Have a meeting place outside (tree, mailbox, etc.).
- Stop, drop, cover and roll if clothes catch fire.
- Crawl low under smoke.
- Dial 9-1-1 in an emergency.

## Fire Extinguishers

- Have a multipurpose (ABC) extinguisher near an exit.
- Teach your family how to use a fire extinguisher (Use P.A.S.S.: Pull the pin, Aim, Squeeze, Sweep).
- Inspect extinguishers annually.

## Smoking Materials & Candles

- Never leave cigarettes or candles unattended.
- Use ashtrays that have the center support feature.



- Empty ashtrays into noncombustible, stable containers only.
- Never smoke in bed.
- Place candles in noncombustible, sturdy holders.
- Keep matches and lighters out of reach of children.

## Smoke Alarms

- Install smoke alarms inside every sleeping area and in hallways.
- Test smoke alarms once a month (use a broom handle to reach & push test button).
- Depending on the batteries in your smoke alarm, replace smoke alarm batteries once a year (Use Daylight Savings Time as a reminder).
- Replace smoke alarms every 10 years.
- For information on carbon monoxide detectors, contact your Building & Fire departments.



## Exterior

- Make house number visible from street (minimum four inches tall & contrasting colors).
- Trim trees away from electrical wires.
- Trim vegetation a minimum of 3 feet around fire hydrants.



- Trim trees away from chimney and remove all pine needles and leaves from roofs, eaves & rain gutters.
- Exterior decks, stairs and guardrails need to be maintained so they are secure.
- Exterior door openings, stairs and landings to be free of items, so there are no trip hazards.

### Housekeeping

- Keep rubbish cleaned out of attics, garages and yards.
- Keep your clothes dryer vent clean and properly installed.
- Limit the amount of chemicals stored.
- Dispose of and recycle household hazardous materials properly.
- Store hazardous materials, including paint in proper containers with tight-fitting lids and correct identification labels.
- NEVER use flammable liquids to clean clothes or start fires.
- Allow for proper ventilation when using flammable liquids and hazardous materials.
- Put oily rags in metal containers with tight-fitting lids, not in a pile where they can spontaneously ignite.

### Heating Equipment

- Keep space heaters at least 3 feet away from all combustibles.
- Replace furnace filters once a year.
- Install a spark screen in front of the fireplace.
- Have chimney inspected and cleaned annually.
- Dispose of ashes in metal containers.



- Keep newspapers, other combustibles and clutter away from water heater.

### Electrical Hazards

- Avoid overloading electrical circuits.
- Inspect electrical cords and appliances for damage.
- Do not tack cords to the wall or run them under rugs.
- Maintain space around electrical equipment, such as, TV, VCR, stereo, etc.
- Avoid using multi outlet adapters and extension cords. Have a qualified electrician install more outlets if needed.
- If you must use extension cords, use an outlet strip with a built-in circuit breaker.
- Check appliances periodically for good operating conditions.
- Replace broken receptacles and switches - use GFCI receptacles in kitchen and bathrooms.
- Older mobile homes that have aluminum wiring need a special wire nut splice when changing receptacles.



**PREVENT FIRES**  
**IT'S YOUR JOB!**